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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Senior Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1943.

T. P. EDWARDS, M.D., B.S. (Lond.), D.P.H. (Cantab).

D. THOMAS, C.R.S.I., C.M.I.

Edwin Jones & Son, 9 Argyle St,, Wrexham.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in submitting for your attention my 21st Annual Report for the health of the Rural District of Wrexham for the year 1943. The state of national emergency still exists and for this reason certain statistics have to be withheld and reports have to be cut down to the minimum.

It is satisfactory to note that there is an increase in the number of births and the birth-rate. There is, however, a slight increase in the number of deaths with a corresponding increase in the death-rate, which is still below that of England and Wales.

It is satisfactory to note that the number of cases of Diphtheria and of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis have diminished, and there has been a complete absence of Dysentery.

The campaign for immunisation of children under the age of 15 has been carried on and the effects are well shown in the diminished incidence of Diphtheria in our area and in the fact that of all the cases of Diphtheria which were admitted to our hospital, only 9 had been immunised. Though there were two deaths in children under the age of 15, neither of these had been previously immunised.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

T. P. EDWARDS,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

STATISTICS.

Area (acres) ...	...	...	...	72,370
Birth Rate ...	20.1	(England and Wales)...		16.5)
Still Birth Rate ...	0.83	(England and Wales ...		0.51)
Death Rate ...	11.7	(England and Wales ...		12.1)

Maternal Mortality—

Puerperal Sepsis	1
Other Causes	1
	2

Maternal Mortality Rate per 1000 Live Births—1.6 as compared with 2.15 for England and Wales.

Infantile Mortality Rates—

Legitimate	45.2
Illegitimate	125
Total	49.4

(England and Wales 49).

Death from Diarrhoea under 2 years of age ... 1

BIRTHS.

During the year there were 1213 live births as compared with 1122 in 1942. The illegitimate births amount to 64, an increase of 2 over 1942. The Birth Rate has increased from 18.08 to 20.8. The figures for birth refer to the Rural District Cases only, and confinements which have taken place at the Ruabon and Gerwyn Hall Maternity Hospitals, where they were outside our area, have been allocated to their respective Local Authorities.

STILL BIRTHS.

There were 41 still births during the year, 24 being females. This is a decrease of 9 on that of the previous year.

The Still Birth Rate is 0.83 as compared with 0.8 for 1942.

DEATHS.

There were 710 deaths during the year, 376 males and 334 females. This should be compared with 687 in 1942. The death rate being 11.8 as compared with 11.07 in 1942. England and Wales 12.1.

There were no deaths from Typhoid or Cerebro Spinal Fever, Whooping Cough or Measles.

There were	2	deaths from	Diphtheria.
	19	,, ,,	Respiratory Tuberculosis.
	4	,, ,,	Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis.

28	deaths	from	Influenza, of which 16 were males
86	,,	,,	Cancer, of which 45 were males and 41 females.
69	,,	,,	Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions.
181	,,	,,	Heart Disease, of which 97 were females.
80	,,	,,	Bronchitis, of which 52 were males.
23	,,	,,	Pneumonia, of which 14 were females.
2	,,	,,	Puerperal Sepsis and other maternal causes.
15	,,	,,	Premature Births, of which 11 were males.
16	,,	,,	Congenitial malformations, of which 11 were males.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Scarlet Fever.

98 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the year as compared with 57 for 1942.

It must be noted that there is a marked increase in the number of cases during the year, but the type of infection, judged by the admissions to the Fever Hospital, were extremely mild.

There was one death.

Diphtheria.

78 cases were notified during the year as compared with 103 in 1942.

There were two deaths, one male and one female.

Enteric Fever.

There were no notifications during the year.

Erysipelas.

There were 16 cases notified during the year as compared with 24 in 1942.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

There were two notifications during the year as compared with 6 for 1942.

The Puerperal Pyrexia Rate is 1.6 per 1000 Total Births (as compared with 11.68 for England and Wales).

There was one death.

Pneumonia.

70 cases of Pneumonia were notified during the year as compared with 75 in 1942.

There were 23 deaths, of which 14 were females,

Whooping Cough.

65 cases of Whooping Cough were notified during the year as compared with 97 in 1942 and 249 in 1941, thus there has been a satisfactory reduction in the notifications from this dangerous disease.

The dangerous character of Whooping Cough is not always appreciated by the general public but one must take into consideration the pulmonary complications which may arise, such as Pneumonia, Tuberculosis, etc.

There were no deaths.

Measles.

251 cases of Measles were notified during the year as compared with 450 in 1942.

There were no deaths.

Small Pox.

No cases.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

These cases are notified to the County Council, being the Maternity and Child Welfare Authority for the area, and any notifications received by them are required to be reported to us but we have had no notifications.

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.

3 cases in males were notified during the year and there were no deaths. In view of the epidemic which was in existence for some three or four years, it is evident that this has now finished.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The number of new cases notified were as follows :

NEW CASES.

Pulmonary.			Non-Pulmonary.		
M.		F.	M.		F.
42	...	23	14	...	16

DEATHS.

Pulmonary.			Non-Pulmonary.		
M.		F.	M.		F.
9	...	10	2	...	2

It will thus be seen that there were 95 cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year, of which 65 were Pulmonary and 30 Non-Pulmonary. This is an increase of 10 over the figures for 1942. As regards deaths, there were 19 Pulmonary T.B. deaths as compared with 32 in 1942, and 4 Non-Pulmonary deaths as compared with 4 in 1942. With regard to the Pulmonary deaths, the males have diminished from 17 to 9 and the females from 15 to 10. Though the number of cases has increased the number of deaths has decreased.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

On January 1st, 1943, there were 36 patients in hospital, namely 10 Scarlet Fever, 22 Diphtheria, 1 Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis and 3 Erysipelas, and of these 19 were from the Wrexham Rural District, 6 from the Wrexham Borough, 2 from Overton Rural District, 3 from Ruthin Rural District and 6 from Hiraethog Rural District.

During the year 347 cases were admitted as compared with 367 in 1942, 477 in 1941 and 672 in 1940. Of these cases 164 were Scarlet Fever, or observation Scarlet Fever, 137 were Diphtheria including observation cases, 5 cases of Cerebro Spinal Meningitis with 8 additional observation cases, 4 other nervous diseases admitted as Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis, 13 cases or Erysipelas or observation Erysipelas and 16 other cases. Of these 347 cases, 193 came from the Wrexham Rural District, 115 from the Wrexham Borough, 5 from Llangollen Urban District, 3 from Overton Rural District, 23 from Ruthin Rural District, 5 from Hiraethog Rural District, 1 from Ceiriog Rural District, and 2 from Edeyrnion Rural District.

348 cases were discharged, of these 156 were Scarlet Fever, or observation Scarlet Fever, 147 were Diphtheria or observation Diphtheria, 13 cases of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis or observation, 15 cases of Erysipelas and 17 other cases. Of those discharged 198 were from the Wrexham Rural District, 102 from the Wrexham Borough, 5 from Llangollen Urban District, 5 from Overton Rural District, 24 from Ruthin Rural District, 11 from Hiraethog Rural District, 1 from Ceiriog Rural District and 2 from Edeyrnion Rural District.

At the end of the year there were remaining in hospital 28 cases; 18 cases of Scarlet Fever, 9 cases of Diphtheria, and one case of Erysipelas. Of the Scarlet Fever cases, 7 were from the Wrexham Rural District, and 10 from the Wrexham Borough. In reference to the 9 cases of Diphtheria, 4 were from Wrexham Rural and 5 from Wrexham Borough. There was also one case of Erysipelas from Ruthin Rural District.

There were 7 deaths during the year, of which 3 were Diphtheria, 1 Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis, and 3 from other Cerebral troubles admitted as Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.

In my report for 1942, I made reference to the marked decrease in the number of cases of Diphtheria which had been admitted during the year and it is satisfactory to note that there was a still further satisfactory decrease in the number of patients from Diphtheria, and at the end of the year the 9 cases of Diphtheria were the least number that we have had for many a long year. For an area such as ours it is surprising to note that there were only 4 Wrexham Rural District cases in suffering from Diphtheria and only 5 from the Wrexham Borough.

In view of the intensified campaigns against Diphtheria which have been carried on during the last few years, it does appear that they have had a definite effect in reducing, to a very marked extent, the incidence of Diphtheria in our area.

During the year 420 swabs were examined by me at the Fever Hospital as compared with 533 in 1942 and 1441 in 1941. Of these 420 swabs, 39 were positive and 381 negative.

A large number of swabs were sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Conway, where they were examined by Dr. Robinson and his successor Dr. Hoare. The advantage of sending the swabs to Conway is that we are able to find out the type of micro organisms present, and it is surprising the number of cases of the "gravis" or more severe type which infected our patients.

I need hardly refer to the excellent work done in the hospital by the Matron, Assistant Matron, Sisters, and other members of the Nursing Staff during the year. They have met all the calls on their services in the most helpful manner. It must, however, be pointed out that one can regard the present staff as being at its minimum in numbers and it is fortunate for us that we have had so few admissions during the year. Any marked increase in the number of admissions will undoubtedly necessitate an increase in the staff.

SWABS FOR YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1943.

This total refers only to swabs examined by myself in the Laboratory.

	Wxm. R.D.C.	Wxm. Bor.	Ovtn.	Llan. Urban	Fever Hos.	Total
Negative	75	92	11	1	202	381
Positive	3	8	0	0	28	39
	78	100	11	1	230	420

RAINFALL.

I wish once again to thank the Wrexham and East Denbighshire Water Company for their kindness in providing figures of rainfall in our area. These figures were taken at the Packsaddle Reservoir and show that 34.5" of rain fell during the year as compared with 29.7" in 1942. On 203 days there was 0.1" or more rain and on 150 days the rainfall amounted to 0.4" or more.

WATER SUPPLY.

During the year 7 samples of water were taken. Most of them were from wells and two of them were taken from Ffynnon-y-Werni, near Glyndyfrdwy, in reference to an appeal against the decision of the Town Planning Authority to sanction a house which had been built on the hillside. The water taken from a house in the adjoining farmstead was satisfactory, but the water supply which was intended to be used as a supply for the buildings

was found to be heavily contaminated, though there was no evidence of recent faecal pollution. There was, however, a rich zoological fauna including flat worms and protozoa.

Two samples were taken from the Wrexham Water mains in different parts of the area and both were found to be very satisfactory and were in the Ministry of Health's Class 1 Classification.

Another sample was taken from a deep well in Holt and was found to contain an excessive number of coliform organisms, and the water can not be regarded as satisfactory.

The other two samples were taken from wells and both of them were unsatisfactory. One of these samples was from a farm in the Adwy area, and representations were made to the owner of the farm to join up with the Brymbo Water Company's mains which were in close proximity to the premises.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

At the end of the year it was estimated that about ~~4640~~ 2738 children between the age of one and five, and ~~10,037~~ 7359 between the ages of five and fifteen, or a total of ~~14,677~~ 10,097 had been immunised. During the year 906 children were immunised between one and five years of age and 783 cases between five and fifteen, thus between one and fifteen 1,689 children were immunised.

It is of interest to note that the number of cases of Diphtheria in children under 15 years of age was 46 and in only 9 cases were the children known to have been immunised in less than 12 weeks before the onset of the disease. The number of deaths from Diphtheria in children under 15 amounted to two and neither of these cases had been immunised.

These figures show in a marked degree the beneficial effect of preventive medicine. I have already referred to the fact that during the last few years the number of cases suffering from Diphtheria has progressively decreased in our area. There is, however, still room for some improvement in that certain parents neglect to take advantage of the facilities offered to them and in some cases they have good cause to regret their decision.

This decrease in the number of cases of Diphtheria is especially welcome at a time when we have had a certain number of evacuees from bombed-out areas.

VACCINATION FIGURES.

Successfully vaccinated	429
Insusceptible	6
No. had Smallpox	Nil
Conscientious objectors	772
Died unvaccinated	67
Postponed by Medical Certificate ...	85
Removed	252
Unaccounted for	118

	Wxm. Rural	Wxm. Bor.	Llan. Urban	Overton Rural	Ruthin Rural	Hrth. Rural	Ceiriog Rural	Edyr. Rural	Total
Remaining in Hospital 31st Dec., 1942.									
Scarlet Fever	8	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	10
Diphtheria	9	5	0	1	1	6	0	0	22
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Erysipelas	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	3
TOTAL	19	6	0	2	3	6	0	0	36
Admitted from 1st January, 1943, to 31st December, 1943.									
Scarlet Fever and Observation	86	56	2	2	16	1	1	0	164
Diphtheria and Observation	84	40	1	0	6	4	0	2	137
C.S.M. and Observation	7	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	13
Other forms of Meningitis	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Erysipelas and Observation	7	4	1	0	1	0	0	0	13
Others	8	7	0	1	0	0	0	0	16
TOTAL	193	115	5	3	23	5	1	2	347
Discharged from 1st January, 1943, to 31st December, 1943.									
Scarlet Fever and Observation	87	46	2	2	17	1	1	0	156
Diphtheria and Observation-	87	39	1	1	7	10	0	2	147
C.S.M. and Observation	7	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	13
Erysipelas and Observation	8	5	1	1	0	0	0	0	15
Others	9	7	0	1	0	0	0	0	17
TOTAL	198	102	5	5	24	11	1	2	348

ISOLATION HOSPITAL, WREXHAM, REPORT—*continued*

	Wxm. Rural	Wxm. Bor.	Llan. Urban	Overton Rural	Ruthin Rural	Hrth. Rural	Ceiriog Rural	Edyr. Rural	Total
Remaining in Hospital year ending 31st December, 1943.									
Scarlet Fever	7	10	0	0	1	0	0	0	18
Diphtheria	4	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
Erysipelas	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
TOTAL	11	15	0	0	2	0	0	0	28
Deaths in Hospital for year ending 31st December, 1943.									
Diphtheria	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Tubercular Meningitis	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Meningitis	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Cerebral Tumor and Erysipelas	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
TOTAL	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	7

REPORT OF Mr. D. THOMAS, SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

The following Table gives a detailed list of the actual work done by the Sanitary Inspectors in the Rural District during the year.

DWELLINGS.

No. of houses re-roofed	5
No. of houses repaired, roofs, walls, etc.	130
No. of houses furnished with eaves gutters and down spouts	62
No. of houses otherwise treated to prevent dampness ...	48
No. of houses provided with more light and ventilation ...	10
No. of houses cleansed (on notice)	4
No. of houses in which defective floors were renewed ...	39
No. of houses provided with new pavements in back yard	8
No. of houses in which old pavements were repaired ...	17
No. of new kitchen grates and washing boiler provided and repaired	28
No. of new kitchens built	86
No. of wash-houses built	1

DRAINAGE.

No. of cesspools emptied on notice	14
No. of kitchen sinks provided	13
No. of new drains laid to old premises	44
No. of drains repaired	485
No. of house drains disconnected from road drains ...	2
No. of new slop gullies constructed	17
No. of septic tanks and filter beds	9

SANITARY CONVENIENCES.

No. of waste pipes renewed	55
No. of house drains trapped and ventilated	3
No. of new water closets provided	58
No. of old water closets repaired	171
No. of old water closets furnished with flushing cisterns ...	30
No. of privies converted into water closets	30
No. of new earth closets and privies	2
No. of privies repaired	17
No. of portable ashbins provided	534
No. of new urinals	2
No. of urinals repaired	6

WATER SUPPLY.

No. of old premises supplied	13
No. of service pipes repaired	325
No. of old wells repaired and protected	2
No. of premises supplied with taps in Back Kitchen ...	29

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

No. of persons on register on 31st December, 1943 ...	694
No. of persons registered during the year	26
No. of persons discontinued	13
No. of cowsheds repaired and improved	57
No. of visits and inspections	1435

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

No. of Workshops registered during 1943	—
No. of workshops on register	62
No. of workshops repaired	11
No. of workshops cleansed (on notice)	6
No. of new sanitary conveniences erected	4
No. of visits and inspections	215

SCHOOL HYGIENE.

No. of schools where sanitary fittings were improved ...	1
No. of schools where drainage was improved	1

QUARRY FENCING ACT, 1887.

No. of dangerous quarries fenced	9

REFUSE REMOVAL.

No. of offensive accumulations removed upon notice ...	79
No. of nuisances, arising from keeping animals, abated ...	21

CLERICAL WORK.

No. of intimatory notices issued	1513
No. of intimatory notices complied with	1451
No. of statutory notices issued	62
No. of statutory notices complied with	62
Total number of visits and inspections	13312
No. of houses disinfected	175
No. of schools disinfected	5

NUISANCES.

1513 Nuisances were dealt with during the year. 1513 Intimatory Notices were served and in 1451 cases these were complied with. It was found necessary in the remaining number to serve Statutory Notices under the Public Health Act upon the owners, and these have been carried out. It was not found necessary to take legal action against the owners or carry out the work in default. In view of the difficulty in obtaining material and labour, it is pleasing to report that the owners carried out the work so satisfactorily.

HOUSING ACTS, 1936.

51 Notices were served under Section 21 of the Housing Act, 1936, upon the owners of properties found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation, and of these 46 were complied with. The difficulty in obtaining material and labour, together

with the high costs has made it difficult, especially for small property owners, to carry out even essential repairs and it is feared that many houses in the area, through lack or attention, will have deteriorated to such an extent that it will not be possible to render them fit at a reasonable cost. This aspect is regrettable in as much as the present housing conditions demand that until a sufficient accommodation is provided to rehouse the occupants these houses will have to be occupied indefinitely.

OVERCROWDING.

Overcrowding in the area appears to become more acute each year, and this is only what can be expected in view of the large number of border line cases of overcrowding which existed before the war. Although it is impossible to assess the actual extent of overcrowding without a complete survey of all houses, from personal observation it appears that the worst cases exist in the smaller type of house which is the least suitable for human habitation. There is, however, a danger of exaggerating the present position. At the same time, sufficient instances of acute overcrowding are known to state definitely that the health and the moral standards of the families are affected by the conditions under which they are compelled to live.

The problem will no doubt be accentuated in the post-war period when service men are demobilised and return to join their wives who at present reside with their parents, and cases are known where there will be at least four families in the houses.

In an attempt to alleviate the present situation, the Government issued a Circular 2848 (Wales) to Local Authorities, giving them powers to requisition houses which could be adapted to accommodate families already inadequately housed. A survey of the area revealed that vacant houses which could be used had already been requisitioned and occupied by other Government Departments.

Representations were made to the Minister of Health for permission to include 25 houses, in respect of which Demolition Orders had been made, within the scope of this order, and approval was granted, and the houses requisitioned. A schedule of necessary repairs was prepared and after some difficulty, contractors were secured to carry out the work but it was not possible to have them completed before the end of the year. An indication of the great need for houses can be measured from the very large number of applications received as soon as it became known that the Council were preparing to repair such houses.

HOUSES OCCUPIED BY PERSONS RENDERED HOMELESS BY ENEMY ACTION.

New licences were issued in respect of condemned properties and licences renewed for a period of 6 months. It is probable

that in the near future instructions will be issued for a comprehensive housing survey to be carried out which will reveal the true state of housing in the area and it is suggested that in order to be able to carry out the survey in a reasonable time, additional staff will be required for this purpose.

REFUSE REMOVAL.

There has been no change from former years in the methods for refuse removal and disposal, and in view of the exceptional circumstances prevailing, it can be stated that the work has been carried out with a reasonable degree of efficiency. The greatest difficulties during the year have been encountered through the lack of suitable labour and the frequent change of personnel, which has prevented the work being carried out with regularity.

Another factor which has added to the difficulties has been the inadequacy and the high cost of new ashbins. The war-time product has been of a much lighter gauge than the pre-war standard and where these have been provided experience has shown that they have been most unsuitable for the purpose and have had to be renewed within periods varying from 9 to 12 months. It is anticipated that the Government will soon be able to release a sufficient number of ashbins of pre-war specification and this will undoubtedly add to the efficiency of the system and appreciably reduce the costs of collection.

DRAINAGE.

In spite of the heavy expenditure in carrying out different works of drainage,—485 Notices have been complied with by the owners. In no case was it necessary to carry out the work in default of the owner or apply to Court for an Order.

SANITARY CONVENIENCES.

58 Notices were served upon the owners of properties to provide Sanitary Conveniences for their property, and these have been complied with. Complaints were made to the Health Committee regarding the sanitary conveniences at the Rossett Schools and it was decided that the pail-closets should be converted into water closets and after some difficulty the work was carried out, the owners agreeing to make a substantial contribution towards the cost of providing new water closets for the schools.

FOOD.

No slaughtering of animals intended for food has been carried out in the area, all animals being slaughtered at the Ministry of Food Abattoir, Wrexham. It was found necessary to make representations to the Slaughtering Manager of the inadequate way in which the meat was delivered in our area, and immediate improvements were effected.

OTHER FOODS.

The following table gives a list in quantity of other foods which have been dealt with by the Department during the year.

Fish	20 lbs.
Fish	115 tins.
Butter	16¼ lbs.
Lard	28 lbs.
Bacon and Ham	223 lbs.
Cheese	221½ lbs.
Sausage	56½ lbs.
Boiled Ham	11½ lbs.
Pork	12 lbs.
Liver	1½ lbs.
Meat	271 tins.
Carrots	7 tins.
Tomatoes	4 tins.
Beans	59 tins.
Peas	29 tins
Soups	22 tins.
Sauce	2 bottles.
Pickles	9 jars.
Paste	3 jars.
Fruit	81 tins.
Rice	100 lbs.
Gelatine	13 lbs.
Prunes	28 lbs.
Preserving Sugar	56 lbs.
Granulated Sugar	30 lbs.
Chocolate	126 lbs.
Rusk	1 cwts.
Milk	215 tins.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

The Food and Drugs Act is administered by the Denbighshire County Council and we are indebted to their Inspector for the following list of samples and results taken during the year.

Particulars of samples of Food and Drugs taken in the Wrexham Rural District, during the year ended 31st December, 1943.

Article	No. taken.	Genuine.	Not genuine, or Sub-Standard.
Milk	102	75	27
Beer	1	1	
Potted Paste	2	2	
Pepper	1	1	
Rice	1	1	
Bread	1	1	
Spirits of Nitre	1		1
Butter	9	9	
Lard	1	1	
Cheese	2	2	
Tinned Salmon	1	1	
Condensed Milk	1	1	
Jam	4	3	1
Sausages	7	6	1
Pilchards	1	1	
Dried Milk	1	1	
Cake Mixture	1	1	
Tinned Parsnips	1	1	
Totals	138	108	30

The major portion of the milk samples shown as "Not-genuine," were only slightly below the standard, or were eliminated by comparison samples. In three instances of serious adulteration the vendors were prosecuted and convicted.

Informal samples of Jam, Spirits of Nitre, and Sausage failed to comply with specific Regulations, and appropriate action was taken in each case.

All other samples were certified as genuine, and free from all prohibited preservatives and colouring matter.

D. WYNNE GRIFFITH,
CHIEF INSPECTOR.

16, Woodland Road, East,
Colwyn Bay.

MILK AND DAIRIES ACT, 1932.

The number of registered wholesale and retail milk producers in the area is 733. 26 premises were registered during the year. 57 Cowsheds were repaired and brought up to the necessary standard. There is one milk pasteurising plant in the area which in addition to supplying a large number of the general public, also provides milk for the schools in the Borough and Rural District of Wrexham. During June and July it was found that the milk did not comply with the specified standards and investigations were carried out and certain parts of the plant were repaired and approved, which resulted in the quality of the milk becoming normal.

163 samples of milk were taken on behalf of the War Agricultural Committee and submitted for examination to the Bangor University Advisory Laboratory at Cefn.

The results of the samples taken were as follows :

A	B	C
106	30	27

The results of the samples of Accredited milk were :

Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
157	7

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

9 Factories were registered during the year, making a total of 71, including bakehouses, on the register. 6 premises were cleansed on notice from the Local Authority and the sanitary conveniences have been improved in 4 cases.

QUARRY FENCING ACT, 1887.

10 dangerous pit shafts were protected during the year. The fencing around the shafts requires frequent attention to adequately protect the shafts. The most satisfactory manner would be to have all the shafts filled with refuse. Steps should be taken to obtain the necessary permission for this to be carried out.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1938.

In accordance with the delegated powers under the above Act, a survey of all the food premises in the area was carried out, when it was revealed that in 2 instances major infestations were found and 52 were of a minor nature.

Visits were paid to these premises and advice given on eradication of the pests. The co-operation of the Pest Department of the War Agricultural Committee was secured. The disinfestation of the Council's property, Refuse Tips, and Sewage Works was carried out under contract by the War Agricultural Committee and the results of their labours proved that the work was satisfactorily carried out.